

The following are the files posted for replication.

➤ **“01 Questionnaire (Japanese).pdf”**

This is the original version of the questionnaire in Japanese used in the survey.

➤ **“02 Questionnaire (English).pdf”**

This is the questionnaire translated into English.

➤ **“03 Data 1.dta” and “03 Data 1.do”**

“03 Data 1.dta” is a dataset and “03 Data 1.do” is a Stata do-file used to create [Figures 2, 3, Tables 3, 4, 5, and Appendices D, E, F](#). The unit of observations is the survey respondents. The data contains the responses to the survey as well as the municipality in which the respondent lives.

➤ **“03 Data 2.dta” and “03 Data 2.do”**

“03 Data 2.dta” is a dataset and “03 Data 2.do” is a Stata do-file used to compare the response rate between the merged and intact groups ([Table 3 and Appendix D](#)). The unit of observations is the voters selected as the sample in the survey.

➤ **“03 Data 3.dta” and “03 Data 3.do”**

“03 Data 3.dta” is a dataset and “03 Data 3.do” is a Stata do-file used to create [Table 1 and Appendix B](#). The unit of observations is rural municipalities prior to the wave of mergers. The data contains characteristics of municipalities used to generate propensity scores for merger.

➤ **“03 Data 4.dta” and “03 Data 4.do”**

“03 Data 4.dta” is a dataset and “03 Data 4.do” is a Stata do-file used to create [Table 2 and Appendix C](#). The unit of observations is the municipalities in which the survey was conducted. The data contains characteristics of municipalities used to generate propensity scores for merger as well as the propensity score of each municipality.

➤ **“04 Codebook.xlsx”**

This file contains information on each of the four datasets. For each dataset, it provides a description of each variable included in the dataset.

➤ **“05 List of Municipalities.xlsx”**

This file lists the municipalities in which the survey was conducted.